

La Crosse Sept. 22nd 1861

Cousin Dan:

As I have a few spare moments this afternoon I thought I would improve them in writing to you. I received your billet a few days ago, but concluded it was not necessary to answer it immediately, as Gen. Pierce could inform you what the chance was for a situation here this winter.

I can get you a situation in our Co. if that would suit you. You wished to know what kind of a Co. we had joined. It is called the 1st Battery. (I think Co. A on the extreme right) There is some prospect of our being joined to the 10th reg. but nothing definite. We drill now from 6 to 8 hours a day. we expect to have our guns before long, or as soon as we get into camp. It is not decided yet where that will be, whether here or at Racine.

We had our election of officers last Monday. I was elected one of the sergeants of which there are 6 each has charge of a gun.

I shall come over if I can before we leave. I wish you were going along with us. I think you would like it.

we have good fun and plenty of fun

we captured a seceder in town

the other day, made him take the oath of allegiance. Compelled him to bear the flag in front of the Co. through town and to the drill ground and propose three cheers for the union. Good by for the present. I hope to write soon.

E. J. Hackett